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**NEWS RELEASE**

# Judd Gregg

United States Senator for New Hampshire  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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## **THIRD WEATHER BUOY INSTALLED OFF NEW ENGLAND COAST**

*Will Provide Life Saving Forecasts to Mariners/Fishermen*

WASHINGTON— U.S. Senator Judd Gregg (R-NH) announced today that the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) recently installed the third and final weather buoy off the New England coast. In response to concerns from fishermen and other mariners, Senator Gregg secured \$750,000, through his capacity as Chairman of the Senate Commerce, Justice, State Appropriations Subcommittee, for three weather buoys to be installed off the New England. These funds were included in the budget for NOAA during fiscal year 2002.

Senator Gregg stated, “Fishermen put their lives at risk on a daily basis as they go out to sea in weather that can often change quickly and evoke dangerous conditions. It was brought to my attention that the marine forecasts across critical fishing grounds were completely inadequate and did not provide vital information. With the installation of these three buoys, fishermen should now be able to access hourly localized weather observations and greatly improved weather forecasts. The fishing industry is an important part of the history and culture of New Hampshire, and the addition of these buoys will provide a safer environment for the men and women who use the sea for their livelihood.”

These 3-meter discus data buoys will collect weather and sea state information such as temperature, humidity, cloud cover, wind speed, wind direction, barometric pressure, sea surface temperature, and wave height. In addition to providing more localized weather forecasts for mariners, the data buoys will augment NOAA’s National Weather Service overall forecasting capabilities and could become part of a larger coastal ocean observation system.

The first two buoys were deployed late last summer off of Montauk Point and Cape Cod. The third buoy was deployed this week by the Coast Guard Cutter *Abby Burgess* 25 nautical miles southeast of Jonesboro, Maine. The weather data from the buoys is available by phone at 228-688-1948 or on the internet at: [www.ndbc.noaa.gov](http://www.ndbc.noaa.gov).

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